ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A method for controlling electronic records produced by an application

5   software program for an analytical laboratory apparatus includes (a) restricting

access to the application software program to designated users performing

assigned user roles; (b) assigning a set of user rights to each user role; (c) storing

the records in a protected data file format; (d) maintaining an audit trail of log-on's

and activities performed in the application software program; and (e) authenticating

10 the electronic records by means of at least one electronic signature. The

designated users are divided into a first group who are given a right to sign the

electronic records and a second group who are not given the right to sign electronic

records, and access to step (e) is denied to users of the second group.